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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on Prevention of
Discrimination and Protection
of Minorities
Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 15

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Ms. Daes: draft resolution

Discrimination against indigenous peoples

The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as set forth in the Charter, is the achievement of international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without discrimination as to race, sex, language or religion,

Reaffirming the urgent need to recognize, promote and protect more effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/34 of 7 May 1982, in which the Council authorized the Sub-Commission to establish annually a working group on indigenous populations,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 48/163 of 21 December 1993 on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Working Group on its twelfth session (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/30), and, in particular, of its conclusions and recommendations,

Taking note also of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/30, in which the Commission recommended to all thematic rapporteurs, special representatives, independent experts and working groups to pay special attention, within the framework of their mandates, to the situation of indigenous people,

Mindful of the relevant recommendations adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, in particular those contained in Part I, paragraph 20 and Part II, paragraphs 28 to 32 of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (A/CONF.157/23),

1. Expresses its deep appreciation to the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and in particular to its Chairperson-Rapporteur, Ms. Erica-Irene A. Daes, for the work accomplished during its twelfth session;

2. Welcomes the proclamation by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/163 of 21 December 1993 of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People to begin on 10 December 1994;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Working Group on its twelfth session to indigenous peoples and organizations, Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations as well as to all thematic rapporteurs, special representatives, independent experts and working groups;

4. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it approve the participation of the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group, Ms. Erica-Irene A. Daes, in the World Summit for Social Development, which will take place at Copenhagen in March 1995;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare an annotated agenda for the thirteenth session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations containing, inter alia, the following items: standard-setting activities, review of developments, the study of treaties and agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous peoples, the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, a permanent forum for indigenous people, the

Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations and the United Nations operational activities and indigenous peoples;

6. Recommends the Commission on Human Rights to request the Economic and Social Council that the Working Group be authorized to meet for eight working days prior to the forty-seventh session of the Sub-Commission;

7. Decides to recommend to the Commission on Human Rights the following draft decision for adoption:

"The Commission on Human Rights, noting resolution ... of .. August 1994 of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, decides to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it approve the participation of Ms. Erica-Irene A. Daes, Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Sub-Commission in the World Summit for Social Development, which will take place at Copenhagen in March 1995; and requests that the Working Group be authorized to meet for eight working days prior to the forty-seventh session of the Sub-Commission."